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At Glad Christmas Time, Remember the Needy, so Every Home May Share the Merry Christmas Spirit

An Open Letter.

To the citizens of Barton county, but more especially to city, township, school district, and county officers:

As the representative of Barton county in the coming session of the legislature, I desire to say that it is my purpose, as nearly as possible, and to the full extent of my ability, to represent this county. While I have certain well defined opinions on various subjects that will be presented for consideration, yet, I am not there to represent myself, but the people of Barton county. To the fulfillment, therefore, of my duties, I desire to, and am anxious, to hear from, or talk with, the citizens of the county, but more especially the officials above referred to, because they, in the exercise of their various duties, find defects or oversights in the laws, which should be amended, or in many cases repealed entirely, or new laws should be provided. That we have plenty of law in the statute books that we have no need of goes without saying, yet, every legislation in the past has been called on for much new legislation, and doubtless the coming session will be no exception to the rule. It must be borne in mind that your representative is one of a hundred and twenty-five, and these men all have ideas of their own. Further these men represent over a million and a half of the best people on earth, Kansas citizens, and each of them have ideas of their own. Therefore, if we fail in getting everything we want, we must not be disappointed. You may rest assured that my time, ability, and energy, will be devoted to the work of the session, in behalf of my constituents. Less no man should do, more an angel could not do.

In conclusion, I want to say again, that either before or during the session I shall be pleased to hear from you.

Respectfully,
W. P. FEDER,
Representative 78th Dist.

Militar Verein Meeting.

The monthly meeting of the Militar Verein, at Ellinwood, was held in that city last Saturday afternoon, and a large number of the members were present. Joe Walters and F. Zutavern, of this city, who are honorary members, attended. This was also the time for the annual election of officers, which resulted in Albert Janke being elected president, John Klein, vice president, B. Krampe, secretary and John Berscheidt as treasurer. The society is in a flourishing condition.

Fletcher.

Mrs. Sarah Fletcher, widow of E. F. Fletcher, was born in Ohio December 1, 1829, and died at the home on the south side, in Barton county, Kansas, December 14, aged 81 years and 14 days. Her maiden name was Sarah Meek. In April, 1845, she was married to E. F. Fletcher, in Ohio. In 1879 they moved from Ohio to Adams county, Illinois, shortly afterward moving to this state and have resided in this county ever since. Her husband died in this county about eight years ago, and was buried in the Great Bend cemetery. She leaves five children to mourn her loss. They are Harvey Fletcher, a son with whom she has made her home for a number of years, in Comanche township, and at whose home she died; another son, Sidney, of Pratt county, also two daughters, Mrs. T. B. White, of this city, Mrs. Lou Gibbons, of Pratt county, and a son, Moses who lives in Topeka. She was well known by many of the people of the south side of the river and by everyone in the vicinity in which she lived as a kind and popular lady of the old school. We extend our sympathy to the bereaved ones in this time of trouble.

The First National Bank will have a limited supply of new one and two dollar bills available for Christmas gifts.

Foot Ball Banquet.

Following the custom established last year, the students of the high school treated the foot ball team to a banquet, the same being held in the high school building on Friday evening of last week. The affair was planned and carried out by the senior girls and did great credit to their ability in this line. About 60 were present, and they sure were a jolly bunch. Prof. Eddy acted as toastmaster, and the roasts that he handed some of the young folks, which were usually returned with interest however, kept the guests in good humor.

The regular program was as follows:

Orchestra, "Haute Monde" op. 19—Chas. A. Sidney.
Reminiscences, Miss Wood.
"Our Inspiration," Chas. Slentz.
"To the Victor Belongs the Spoils," Erna Zutavern.
Piano selection, Miss Kenny.
"The End Man," Ray Hull.
"Our Coach," Lon Allison.
"Football Spirit," Will Townsend.

Duet, "Praum Ber Senneris", op. 10—Aug. Labitzky—Misses Elva Coughlin, Muriel Hooper.

"Last Down," Robt. Smith.

"The Team," Helen Hayes.

Each and every one responded in a happy manner. Prof. Hull, Adam Krause, and W. P. Feder were also called on for remarks. A delightful evening was enjoyed by those present, and certainly the football boys feel highly honored by the banquet tendered them.

The Sun That Rises In The Southwest.

The constitution makers of Arizona have finished their work. It represents the high water mark of Democracy in the United States.

Here are its main provisions:

Initiative and referendum; percentages of 10 and 5 respectively.
Anti-child labor provision.
Amendment to constitution by a majority vote of the people upon initiative of 15 per cent of voters.

Nonpartisan election of the judiciary.

Recall of all elective officers.

Anti-lobbying law.

Direct primaries.

Direct advisory primary for senators.

Instructions to legislature to enact a corrupt practice law.

Rigid corporation regulation, with provision to abolish wild-catting.

Physical valuation of railroads as a basis for rate regulation.

Corporation commission with wide powers.

Employers' liability provision.

Mandate for the enactment of a law.

Restricting sale of public lands, to prevent land grabbing.

Abolition of fee system of all public officers.

Giving cities over 3,500 population right to frame their own charters.

Prohibiting employment of aliens on public work.

This great instrument now goes to congress and the president for acceptance or rejection. If accepted it will mark a new epoch in the growth of American institutions.

Well done, Arizona. "Time's noblest offspring is the last."

—Wichita Beacon.

The Beacon might have added that the convention which framed this constitution was overwhelmingly Democratic.

Band Boys Ball.

The members of the Great Bend Band are going to give a big concert and ball in the Moses hall next Monday night, December 26, to which the public is cordially invited. The tickets are \$1.00, and you will get the worth of your money whether you care to dance or not as the concert will be well worth the price of the ticket. A good band is a mighty good advertisement for a town and you should encourage the boys in this line by purchasing a ticket.

Odd Fellows at Hoisington.

Wednesday, the 14th, was a big day for the Odd Fellows at Hoisington, in that on that date they dedicated their fine new building which had just been completed. It was built in connection with another building erected by Mr. Dizzotelle, and is a credit to the city and the lodge. The exercises were in charge of Hon. W. H. Kemper, of Topeka, past G. M. of the order in Kansas. In addition to the dedicatory exercises a class of about twenty-five candidates was initiated, the work being done by the degree team of the Russell lodge, headed by Ira S. Fleck as captain. This team is one of the very best in the state, and put the work on in an exceptionally fine manner. A large number of members from Russell were present.

After the exercises were completed, a magnificent banquet was served, at which W. H. Kemper, on behalf of the I. O. O. F., and Mrs. D. C. Luse of this city, in behalf of the Rebekahs, delivered addresses.

The affair throughout was a successful one, and marks an epoch in the history of the Hoisington lodge.

Those from Great Bend who attended the affair were Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Luse, Mr. J. W. Sodestrom, Mr. W. A. Rush, and Mr. H. D. Ashpole.

Broke His Leg.

Last evening Lloyd Sams and his men finished unloading a car of granite for the Garnett Marble and Granite Works. They were unloading some pieces on the sidewalk in front of the building and Clarence Sams was on the walk, helping to handle one of the big blocks. One of the other men, using a hand-spike tipped the block toward Clarence, who in stepping back caught one of his feet on a block of wood and could not get back far enough to get out the way of the rock, and the leg was caught under it and one of the bones was broken and the flesh was crushed and bruised. The wonder is that both bones were not broken.

Clarence was taken home and Dr. Blasdel was called to attend him. He will be laid up for a few weeks, but it is fortunate and almost miraculous that his injuries were not greater.—Garnett Evening Review, Dec. 14.

Clarence and Lloyd Sams are sons of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Sams of this city.

John Weisthaner Burned Out.

John Weisthaner, formerly the leading merchant of Inman, who moved to Kremlin, Okla., a year or two ago, met with a heavy loss Thanksgiving day. He lost his flour mill, elevator, cotton gin, and alfalfa mill. There was only insurance on them for about \$18,000. The farmers were also very heavy losers, as they had large quantities of grain stored in the mill and elevator.—Canton Pilot.

Along about the middle eighties, before Mr. Weisthaner located in Inman, he was in business at Ellinwood, and in one of the first big fires that visited the city he was a sufferer.

Mrs. Martin Menzer.

Departed from this life on Tuesday morning, December 13, 1910, Josephine, dearly beloved wife of Martin Menzer, aged 49 years and 6 months. Funeral services were held at St. Anne's church Thursday morning, and the remains interred in the Catholic cemetery.

Mrs. Menzer was the oldest daughter of the late Karl Kreisel and wife. She leaves to mourn their loss her husband, one son, and three daughters, also her aged mother, one brother and two sisters, and a host of relatives and friends by whom she will always be lovingly remembered. And ever near us, 'tho unseen, The dear immortal spirit tread; For all the boundless universe Is life, there is no dead.

—Hoisington Dispatch.

ANY LIFE IN THE SEED?

Here's a Simple Way to Answer That Important Problem.

Here's a simple test, that any one can make, to prove the value of seed, such as alfalfa, meadow fescue, bromegrass, cane or kaffir-corn:

Lay a piece of blotting paper upon an ordinary dinner plate; on this count out 100 seeds from the sample to be tested, and cover with another piece of blotting paper and a second plate. Be sure that the blotters are always kept moist, but not too wet. Keep this apparatus moderately warm—about 70 degrees—and count and remove every day the seeds that have sprouted. Six to eight days will be enough to determine the value of the sample.

Some alfalfa growers and some dealers in the seed believe that brown or black seed in a sample does not hurt it for sowing. They say, "Such seed does not sell as well as the bright, but it will sprout just as well and will make just as good a crop."

Now, there are very good reasons for believing that the latter part of this assertion is not true. Experiments conducted at the Agricultural College have shown the black and brown seeds in alfalfa either will not sprout at all or that only a small proportion will sprout. Twelve samples of alfalfa, only one of which could be considered poor, were found to contain 25 per cent of dark colored seeds, or about 15 pounds to the bushel. From these samples 100 dark colored seeds were tested for germination. The average of the 12 tests was 36 per cent.

This means that if a sample contains 15 pounds of brown and black seed to a bushel, about 10 pounds in every bushel is entirely worthless. At 15 cents a pound this is \$1.50; an amount which should be deducted from the selling price of the seed. It should be clearly understood that of the 12 samples tested only one would have been considered really poor by anyone not thoroughly familiar with alfalfa seed; and another had been marked "fancy" by a seed dealer.

Nor is that all. Further tests have shown that germination in soil under the most favorable conditions of heat and moisture is always much lower than in any sort of a germinating apparatus, where blotters, square of flannel cloth or clay dishes are used.

Seventy-three samples tested in clay germinating dishes gave an average of 77 per cent; average in soil, 57 per cent. No elaborate argument is needed to prove by these figures that even the best alfalfa seed will not be too good, and that it pays to use only the best.

The objection may be made here that it is a very simple matter to sow seed extra heavy, if it looks to be of poor quality, and trust to quantity to bring up the stand. The answer to this is that poor seed is always unreliable, and there is no practical way of determining in the field, with the seed ready to be sown, just how much should be added to make up for poor quality. The man sowing ten acres may think he can afford to use screenings, at \$5 per bushel, but the large grower, of long experience, knows that the best seed at \$10 to \$12 a bushel is always the cheaper.

The dark colored seed gets its dark color from one or both of two principal causes. First, rainy weather at time of harvesting, or second, heating in the stack. Either of these will kill the germ and turn the seed dark.

What has been said of alfalfa seed is true of the clovers, and except as regards color, is true of grass seed, cane and kaffir corn, etc. This, however, is to be remembered. Alfalfa and clover seed often are good for two or three years, though old seed never should be sowed without being tested, while the seed of the meadow fescue, bromegrass and can and kaffir corn are practical-

ly worthless when more than one year old. In one neighborhood, last spring several farmers sowed kaffir corn twice and finally had to buy new seed before they got a satisfactory stand. Because of using old seed they lost the value of two sowings, the crop was late and could not mature so well, and was worse infested with weeds. A simple test such as is described in the beginning, would have saved all this. Seed testing can easily be done at home by the farmer or some of his family, but weed seed determination and a germination test also can be obtained free of charge for residents of the state by sending samples to the Kansas State Agricultural College at Manhattan.

First Populist Nominee for Governor Dies Suddenly.

John F. Willets, the first Populist candidate for governor of Kansas, died Sunday afternoon at his home in McLouth, Jefferson county. Death was the result of heart failure. He was 79 years old and had been afflicted with heart trouble for a long time.

Willets came to Kansas in 1854 and settled on a farm near McLouth, where he lived until a year ago when he rented the farm and moved into town. He was the father of six daughters and one son, all surviving him.

Mr. Willets was elected to the state legislature in 1870 and served two terms.

After his defeat for governor, which the Populists always claimed, and with more or less justification, was secured through irregular means, Willets retired to his farm. Once since he was a candidate for congress on the Socialist ticket. He was a national lecturer for the Grange association.

George McGill Married.

Miss Elizabeth Isabella Fletcher and Mr. George McGill of Wichita, Kansas, were married Thursday evening at 8 o'clock by the Rev. L. R. Benson, of the Episcopal church. Only immediate relatives and a few friends were present. Mr. and Mrs. McGill will reside in Wichita. Mr. McGill is a lawyer, and was elected county attorney of Sedgwick county at the last election.—Elsworth Messenger.

Mr. McGill has been assistant prosecuting attorney under W. A. Ayers for the past two terms and was elected county attorney at the election in November. He is a popular young man, and has a wide circle of friends in Wichita.

When he went to Ellsworth to be married he told his friends he was going hunting, and no one knew a thing about his marriage until he returned with his bride late yesterday.—Wichita Beacon. Congratulations, George.

"The Shepherd's King."

A special invitation is given to the public to enjoy the beautiful Christmas Cantata, "The Shepherd's King," which will be sung at the Methodist church in Great Bend Christmas night, beginning at 7:30. A choir of forty voices is being trained every night this week by Mr. R. K. Wattson, assisted by Miss Pearl Emley, organist. This will be an appropriate manner in which to spend the closing part of the birthday of our Savior. The leaders and members of the chorus are spending much time in preparation for this event. The free will offering, after the expense necessary to pay for the music, will all be devoted to relief work among the needy in Great Bend. A cause so worthy should receive the fullest support of the people. Come early and get a good seat.

H. J. Cockerill, Pastor.

Mrs. Myron Gilmore is here from Topeka for a few days visit with her brother, L. P. Aber and wife. Mrs. Aber, her mother, will return to Topeka with Mrs. Gilmore.

Err Patterson was in Newton Sunday.

Take It Home.

We have heard men say, "I do not owe a dollar in the world," says the St. John News, and at that very minute they owed their home paper anywhere from one to three dollars on subscription. It was such a small matter that they had really forgotten all about it. Perhaps five or six hundred other subscribers owed a like amount and the editor was hustling around to make ends meet. While a dollar or so seems but a trifle, yet when an editor has several hundred of these "trifling accounts" it means much to him and the success of his paper. The following from the Sylvia News sums up the matter very nicely:

"We presume that many people think the newspaper men are persistent duns as they keep reiterating—look at the label on your paper—move up the date—you are back on your subscription—pay what you owe—pay up—pay up. Now let a farmer or a business man place himself in a similar business position and see if he would not do the same. Suppose a farmer raises a crop of a thousand bushels of wheat, and the price was one dollar or more, and the neighbor says, 'I will pay you the sum in a few days.' As the farmer doesn't want to be small in the matter of small things he says 'all right.' Another comes in the same way until the whole of the thousand bushels are gone out to one thousand different persons. No one purchaser concerns himself about it, and, of course, that could not help him any. He does not realize the farmer has frittered away his crop of wheat in little dribs and that he is seriously embarrassed in his business because all of his debtors treat it as a small matter. But if all would pay him promptly, which they could do as well as not, it would be a large amount to the farmer and enable him to carry on his business without difficulty. The above comparison is too true of the difficulties that a newspaper man has to contend with."

We have just sent out a large bunch of statements to our subscribers. Won't you please help us by paying up!

Woman Leads Class of Medical Students.

A woman made the best grade in the Kansas state medical examination held recently in Kansas City, Kans. Sixty-five applicants appeared before the examining board and of this number, a fifty-four passed. Charlotte Kaulbach, a student from the school of medicine of the University of Kansas, was the one who ranked at the head of the class. Every applicant from the University was passed and will receive a license to practice. According to the members of the board, this class was the strongest that has appeared before it. The plans for the reorganization of the school of medicine of the University of Kansas are progressing steadily, and the budget that will be presented to the next legislature carries a considerable amount for this work. But those who are in a position to judge of the situation, feel that a great opportunity is open to the University to build up the great medical school of the Southwest. With the constant raising of standards, the small and poorly equipped medical schools throughout the country are obliged to close their doors. The opportunities for the well equipped schools and their responsibilities become correspondingly greater.

Mrs. James Alton is up from Pratt for a visit with her mother, Mrs. A. Laidlaw, and others.

G. J. Livesay is up from Oklahoma for a visit with friends and relatives in this section of the state. Mr. Livesay was formerly a resident on the north side.

A baby girl was born to Mr. and Mrs. Herman Beiser on Monday, Dec. 5th.—Macksville Enterprise.